[31st January 1936

(c) Convicts are given the class of diet recommended by the convicting courts and the court's classification is not changed except on medical grounds. The Government do not propose to relax the rules regarding jail dietary in favour of convicts who observe fasts.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"I take it, Sir, that the policy of the Government in punishing offenders is more with a view to their reformation than for mere conviction and punishment. In such circumstances may I know whether the Government will not consider it advisable to afford prisoners belonging to different classes and communities, facilities which will enable them to live, even during the period of incarceration, such as giving them rice diet when they are fasting?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"Other circumstances will have also to be considered in deciding this. Supposing for instance, every Hindu wants a particular kind of rice, say, on Ekadasi day, it would not be possible for Government to give it because there are so many Hindu festivals; in any particular place any action taken by Government should be consistent with the rules. If in regard to any particular community, be it Muslim or Hindu, the officers recommend that a particular kind of food be given, certainly, the Government will do it. There is also the question of finance."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether the Government will examine the question in view of the fact that the Ramzan lasts for one month and it is very essential that during this period facilities with regard to diet should be given in conformity with the rules? I would like to know whether the Government will have the question examined as to how far it is possible to afford such facilities?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I have no objection."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"Will not the giving of a particular diet to the Muslim convicts be more economical because they take only one meal during this period?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I think that will be covered by my promise to examine the question. I can say nothing more than that.

Irrigation

Publication of the reports regarding the deepening of the Valappar and the construction of a calingula.

* 639 *Q.*—Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of the House—

(a) copy of the reports accompanying the estimates for "deepening the river Valappar and constructing a calingula across the same and constructing a calingula across Nadagudi drainage" with crest levels of the different portions of the body walls of the dams and the top level of the dam stones fixed in the dams;

31st January 1936]

(*b*) copy of the front and rear water-level readings of the river Valappar and of the river Puttar at the Puttar-Vellar head and of the river Valappar at the in-fall of Nadagudi drainage; and

(*c*) copy of the rules and regulations in force at present at Puttar-Valappar head?

A.—(*a*) The reports [a] accompanying the estimates are appended.

The crest levels are as follows:—

Crest of the masonry calingulah across the Nadagudi drain under construction	37·60
Level of the top of dam stones	40·18
Crest of the body wall of the dam across the Velappar	40·80
Level of the top of dam stones	41·80

(*b*) The water readings from the beginning of the irrigation season up to 12th December 1935 from the rivers Puthar and Velappar at the Puthar-Velappar head are available, but the Government do not think that any useful purpose will be served by placing the statements of readings on the table of the House. The water readings of the Velappar at the infall of the Nadagudi drainage are not available as there is no gauge fixed in the Velappar at present.

(*c*) Supplies to the two rivers Puthar and Velappar are regulated in proportion to the ayacuts under them, which are roughly in the ratio of 3:5. The number of vents in the two regulators is also in the same ratio.

Measures for preventing the silting up of the Valappar.

* 640 *Q.*—Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the anticipated drop of nearly 2·5 feet in the normal supply level of the Valappar at the in-falls of Nadagudi drainage has been effected by the improvements hitherto executed under the orders of the Chief Engineer;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the deepened bed of the Valappar is getting silted up with sand very quickly;

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) be in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to devise measures to prevent such silting up;

(*d*) the steps the Public Works Department propose to take to keep the normal supply level of the Valappar below 39·26 at all times;

(*e*) whether the authorities of the Public Works Department have suggested in the interests of Nadagudi drainage that the water-level above the calingula across the drainage should not be raised above the top of the dam stones fixed in the calingula; and

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 317–318 infra.